

Weathering of Rocks.—Prof. PERSIFOR FRAZER, Jr., remarked that the igneous rocks in the vicinity of Gettysburg, Pa., present some curious phases of weathering. The ridge along which our forces were disposed during the battle at that place, consists of a syenite which at a point opposite the position of our army's extreme left wing (or Round Top) has broken off, and lies in huge bowlders piled up with great irregularity, and presenting surfaces sometimes many hundred yards in area. These surfaces are sometimes furrowed by channels cut into them by running water, and intersecting in all directions so as to present the general appearance of a Cyclopean wall. The furrows are about an inch in depth, and the raised surfaces which they separate, though slightly discolored, present no signs of perfect disintegration. The similitude to a coarse wall built up of fragments of all sizes, is striking and deceptive even on a close examination.

In some cases, this entire furrowed surface is detached by a fracture, which separates it as a mask from the normally constituted mass beneath it, and in a few instances there were observed two such shells one beneath the other.

This gave the whole rock a concretionary appearance which was remarkable for the tolerably constant thickness of the shells, considering the want of homogeneousness of the rock. It raises an interesting question of how rocks may assume this character by weathering alone.

DECEMBER 29.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-six members present.

Isaac S. Williams, R. M. Girvin, M.D., George D. McCreary, J. Elmore McCreary, and Robert B. Cruice, M.D., were elected members.

Capt. J. H. Mortimer and M. C. Cook, of London, were elected Correspondents.

The following reports were read and referred to the Publication Committee:—

THE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian respectfully reports that 1660 additions have been made to the library during the year 1874, being an excess of 324 above the number reported for 1873.

Of these 235 were volumes, 1416 pamphlets and parts of periodi-

icals, and 9 maps, charts, etc.; 1207 were octavos, 388 quartos, 44 folios, 12 duodecimos, and 9 maps.

They were derived from the following sources:—

Societies	801	Geo. H. Cook	2
Editors	304	Engineer Department, U.S. A.	2
Authors	125	Dr. F. A. Hassler	1
Wilson Fund	72	Geo. W. Tryon, Jr.	1
Isaac Lea	25	Dr. J. H. Slack	1
Department of the Interior	21	J. H. Redfield	1
Geological Survey of Sweden	15	Dr. Asa Gray	1
Publishers	14	Owen Biddle	1
Prof. Alex. Agassiz	12	Geological Survey of New Zealand	1
Smithsonian Institution	10	Commissioners of Public Charity, Pa.	1
Geological Survey of India	9	Trustees of Liverpool Library	1
Thomas Meehan	7	Trustees of N. Y. University	1
Miss Amelia Priestman	6	Pennsylvania R. R. Co.	1
Minister of Public Works, France	5		
S. S. Haldeman	3		

Two hundred and sixteen were purchased.

The additions to the library were distributed to the several departments as follows:—

Journals and Periodicals	1110	Religion	20
Geology	89	Physical Science	19
Conchology	69	Anatomy and Physiology	18
Botany	64	Mineralogy	16
Medicine	42	Voyages and Travels	11
General Natural History	42	Ichthyology	9
Bibliography	38	Herpetology	4
History and Statistics	32	Education	4
Entomology	23	Mammalogy	3
Ornithology	22	Chemistry	3
Helminthology	22		

181 volumes, including 20 volumes of entomological pamphlets, have been bound.

The copying of the Geological Catalogue, which had been revised and arranged at the end of 1873, has been completed. A general card catalogue of the entire library has been commenced, and the titles of all the volumes and pamphlets in the departments of Entomology and Botany, the former numbering 1067, and the latter 1024, have thus been recorded. The works in these departments have been numbered, so that their position on the shelves is indicated by the entry on the card, and the advantages of this arrangement have been found to be so great that the same system of numbering and cataloguing will be extended to the other departments of the library as rapidly as may be.

One hundred and thirty-one letters have been written during the year to editors and societies, asking for a supply of such parts and volumes as were necessary to complete the Academy's set of their publications. In several cases the parts asked for have been received already, and a large number of favorable answers may be confidently expected during the coming spring.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

EDWARD J. NOLAN, *Librarian.*

REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

Little has been done during the past year in the arrangement of the Museum of the Academy. Mr. Charles E. Parker, one of the Curators, went over the alcoholic specimens, renewing the alcohol, and otherwise securing their preservation.

The contributions to the Museum during the year are as follows:—

Mammals.—A Bat from Fort Randall, Dakota, presented by Dr. W. T. Thackeray, U.S. A.; a Flying Squirrel from Texas, by S. B. Buckley; a large variety of the Cat, by A. G. B. Hinkle; a monstrous Pig, by W. Cox; the skin of an Ant-eater, by an unknown donor.

Dr. A. M. Owen U.S.N., presented five human skulls from the Fiji, Marquesas, and Sandwich Islands.

Skeletons of a *Cavia* and a Muskrat were presented by Jacob Geismar.

Birds.—Nineteen specimens, thirteen species of bird skins were presented by a unknown donor. A small collection of bird skins, from Nicaragua, was presented by Dr. John F. Bransford, U. S. N.

A collection of North American birds' eggs, 147 specimens of 74 species, was presented by Mr. E. Dickenson, of Springfield, Mass. A collection of 69 species of birds' eggs and nests was presented by the Smithsonian Institution.

Jacob Geismar presented the skeleton of the Great-horned Owl, and the skull of a Turkey.

Reptiles, Amphibians, and Fishes.—Seven serpents from the Marquesas, South Sea Islands, and Australia, were presented by Dr. A. M. Owen, U. S. N. Two Lizards from Armenia were presented by Rev. G. W. Coan, D.D. A large jar of South American